

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Original) An image forming device, comprising:

a receiving unit for receiving a printing job;

a judging unit for judging whether an instruction for adding a specified mark to be printed in addition to image data is included in the printing job received by said receiving unit or not;

a printing unit for printing the specified mark on a recording element including an IC tag when it is judged by said judgment unit that the instruction for adding the specified mark is included in the printing job; and

a writing unit for writing mark information indicating the specified mark's content on the IC tag included in the recording element when it is judged by said judgment unit that the instruction for adding the specified mark is included in the printing job.

2. (Currently Amended) An image forming device as claimed in claim 1, wherein

said writing unit writes on the IC tag included in the recording element IC tag information including the IC tag's managing number and the mark information indicating the specified mark's content; and

said image forming device further comprising an IC tag information transmitting unit for transmitting the IC tag information written on said IC tag by said writing unit to

an external device that is capable of communicating with said image forming device.

3. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 2, wherein
said IC tag's managing number is assigned by said external device and received
from said external device.

4. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 2, wherein
said IC tag information further includes information for specifying the image
forming device used for writing the IC tag information.

5. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 3, wherein
said IC tag information further includes information for specifying the image
forming device used for writing the IC tag information.

6. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 1, wherein
said specified mark is a mark indicating that it is prohibited to copy a printed
matter.

7. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 2, wherein
said specified mark is a mark indicating that it is prohibited to copy a printed
matter.

8. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 3, wherein
said specified mark is a mark indicating that it is prohibited to copy a printed
matter.

9. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 4, wherein
said specified mark is a mark indicating that it is prohibited to copy a printed
matter.

10. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 5, wherein
said specified mark is a mark indicating that it is prohibited to copy a printed
matter.

11. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 1, wherein
said specified mark is a mark indicating that it is prohibited to take out a printed
matter.

12. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 2, wherein
said specified mark is a mark indicating that it is prohibited to take out a printed
matter.

13. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 3, wherein
said specified mark is a mark indicating that it is prohibited to take out a printed
matter.

14. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 4, wherein
said specified mark is a mark indicating that it is prohibited to take out a printed
matter.

15. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 5, wherein
said specified mark is a mark indicating that it is prohibited to take out a printed
matter.

16. (Withdrawn) A document managing system, comprising:
an image forming device capable of executing a printing job;
a management server for managing an IC tag; and
an IC tag detection device capable of detecting an IC tag, wherein
said image forming device, said management server and said IC tag detection
device are interconnected so that they can communicate with each other,
said image forming device including:
a receiving unit for receiving a printing jobs;
a judging unit for judging whether an instruction for adding a specified mark to be
printed in addition to image data is included in the printing job received by said receiving
unit or not;
a printing unit for printing the specific mark on a recording element including an
IC tag when it is judged by said judgment unit that the instruction for adding the
specified mark is included in the printing job;

a writing unit for writing mark information indicating the specified mark's content on the IC tag included in the recording element when it is judged by said judgment unit that the instruction for adding the specified mark is included in the printing job; and

an IC tag information transmission unit for transmitting the IC tag information written on the IC tag by said writing unit to said management server;

said IC tag detection device including:

a detecting unit for detecting an IC tag;

a reading unit for reading IC tag information written on the IC tag when said detecting unit detects the IC tag;

a restriction judging unit for judging whether the IC tag is within the boundary of a specified restriction concerning document management based on a detection result of said detecting unit and the IC tag information read by said reading unit; and

a detection information transmitting unit for transmitting detection information including the IC tag's managing number detected by said detecting unit to said management server when it is judged by said restriction judging unit that the IC tag is not within the boundary of the specified restriction;

said management server including:

a storage unit for storing IC tag information when the IC tag information is received from said image forming device; and

a warning unit for executing a specified warning process based on detection information when the detection information is received from said IC tag detection device.

17. (Withdrawn) A document managing system as claimed in claim 16, wherein said IC tag detection device further comprises an excursion prevention unit for executing a process for preventing excursion from the boundary of the specified restriction when it is judged by said restriction judging unit that the IC tag is not within the boundary of the specified restriction.

18. (Withdrawn) A document managing system as claimed in claim 16, wherein said warning unit of said management server transmits specified warning information to equipment installed corresponding to the IC tag detection device that transmitted the detection information.

19. (Withdrawn) A document managing system as claimed in claim 17, wherein said warning unit of said management server transmits specified warning information to equipment installed corresponding to the IC tag detection device that transmitted the detection information.

20. (Original) An image forming method comprising the steps of:

- 1) receiving a printing job;
- 2) judging whether an instruction for adding a specified mark to be printed in addition to image data is included in the printing job received in step 1) or not;
- 3) printing the specified mark on a recording element including an IC tag when it is judged in step 2) that the instruction for adding the specified mark is included in the printing job; and

4) writing mark information indicating the specified mark's content on the IC tag included in the recording element when it is judged in step 2) that the instruction for adding the specified mark is included in the printing job.

21. (Withdrawn) A document managing method in a document managing system, said document managing system comprising:

an image forming device capable of executing a printing job;

a management server for managing an IC tag;

an IC tag detection device capable of detecting an IC tag;

wherein said image forming device, said management server and said IC tag detection device are interconnected so that they can communicate with each other; comprising the steps of:

1) said image forming device receiving a printing job;

2) said image forming device judging whether an instruction for adding a specified mark to be printed in addition to image data is included in the printing job received in step 1) or not;

3) said image forming device printing the specified mark on a recording element including an IC tag when it is judged in step 2) that the instruction for adding the specified mark is included in the printing job;

4) said image forming device writing IC tag information including the IC tag's managing number and mark information indicating the specified mark's content on the IC tag included in the recording element when it is judged in step 2) that the instruction for adding the specified mark is included in the printing job;

5) said image forming device transmitting the IC tag information written on the IC tag in step 4) to said management server;

6) said management server storing the IC tag information received from said image forming device;

7) said IC tag detection device detecting the IC tag;

8) said IC tag detection device reading the IC tag information written on the IC tag when the IC tag is detected at step 7);

9) said IC tag detecting device judging whether the IC tag is within the boundary of a specified restriction concerning document management based on a detection result in step 7) and the IC tag information read in step 8);

10) said IC tag detection device transmitting detection information including the IC tag's managing number detected in step 7) to said management server when it is judged in step 9) that the IC tag is not within the boundary of the specified restriction; and

11) said management server executing a specified warning process based on detection information when the detection information is received from said IC tag detection device.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~An image forming~~ A computer-readable recording medium storing a computer-executable program which, when executed by a processor, performs a method ~~that causes a computer to execute a process comprising the steps of:~~

1) receiving a printing job;

2) judging whether an instruction for adding a specified mark to be printed in addition to image data is included in the printing job received in step 1) or not;

3) issuing an order for printing the specified mark on a recording element including an IC tag when it is judged in step 2) that the instruction for adding the specified mark is included in the printing job; and

4) issuing an order for writing mark information indicating the specified mark's content on the IC tag included in the recording element when it is judged in step 2) that the instruction for adding the specified mark is included in the printing job.

23. (Canceled)